A SECONDE declaration of the Prince of Conde,

To make knowen the causers of the troubles whyche are at this day in this Realme, and the dutie wherein he hathe and yet putteth hym selfe in at this present, for the pacifyeng of the same.

1562.

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BIBLIOTHECA BODLEIANA

A SECONDE DE-
CLARATION OF THE PRINCE of Conde to make knowen the cau-ſers of the troubles whiche are at this daye in this realme, and the dutie wherein he hath and yet putteth himſelf in at this preſent for the pacifieng of the ſame.

ALTHOVGH the prince of Conde haue by good proofe ſufficiently inough declared that alonely the great zeale & deuocion which he hath to ỹ ſeruice of ỹ kyng & quene, with the ful obedience he beareth to their maieſties: but alſo ỹ ſingular affectiõ he hath to ỹ quiet & welth of this realme, chiefly herein, that not long ſens he hath deferred euen to the vttermoſt extremitie and nede, to putte armour vpon him, for to reſyſt the violence of theſe, who yet beeyng full of

blood and threats, haue ſent for and aſſembled people on euery ſyde: hauynge armed them ſelues againſte their maieſties commaundementes, and dyd with force enter Paryz. Where at that tyme the ſaid Prince was, who had neuer the leſſe long before perfecte vnderſtanding of their ententes and purpoſes. And after that, hauyng no reſpecte eyther to the degree he is of in this Realme, neyther yet to this, that he was not the firſt that armed hym ſelf, was yet contented ſimply at the quenes commandement to departe the ſayd towne with his traine, and repaire to his houſe mynding forthwith to breake vp his companye, vppon truſt that the others ſhould do the ſame: The which all contrary remained at the ſayd Paryz ſome dayes, and there renforced them ſelues: And after they had there doon ſundry gorgeous actes, went with all their force where their maieſties were, whome they haue enuironned therwith, and therby brought their bodies and willes into a captiuitie.

Neuertheles the ſaid prince who hauing nothing derer vnto hym than ỹ publique tran-

tranquillitie, hath always ben most wyl
ling to submit him self to such reasonable
conditions of layeng downe that weapō
which he for most iuste considerations so
nedefully tooke in hande: That all they
e uē very those whom the other side hath
dispatched vnto him on the behalf of the
King & Queene, haue always sayd, that
whosoeuer should refuse the condicions
that he offred, shuld be in a great wrong
Wherof at this present, the sayd prince
neither maketh mention nor recitall, be-
cause the same haue bene already decla-
red in his former declaration. And sea-
ring least his reasons and answers, that
sithe the offer of his condicions he hathe
made touching that message which was
sent vnto him and persuaded him on the
behalf of the queene at the desire of those
others, haue not bene faithefully repor-
ted vnto her maiestye: or els that these
who haue power about her, might hap-
pilye disguise the same, to make righte
appeare on theyr syde: whereby they
myght nourishe and continue this trou-
ble, preferryng theyr particular facci-
ons before the conseruation and quiet-

nesse

nesse of this estate: The sayde Prince would by no meanes omytt the putting of the same into writyng, to thende they myghte be truely vnderstande of their maiesties, published through all christendome and knowen to all the princes, potentates, allies, frendes and confederates to this crowne, and to all the courtes of parliamentes of this realme, whō the sayd prince requireth (but chiefly the parlyament of Parys) to the whiche he hath of late sent his former declaration, to enregester the same with this his seconde also, to thende he maye hereafter rendre the better acompte of these his doynges, by a moste certaine and perpetuall witnesse vnto his prince, whan he shall come to the age of iudgement betwene the faulte or seruice that he shall haue doone hym in this his minoritie. The sayd Prince so muche assuring himselfe of the so rare integritie of that notable companye so well esteemed of the whole worlde, that it will examine and way all thynges with the balance of iustice reason & equitie without inclinyng to any passion or affection of any particular

cular partie.

AND fyrſt and formoſt to begin with al they ar not able nor may lay vnto the princes charge eyther to haue begun the trouble whiche at this daye is in this realme, eyther to haue ben the cauſe or continuance therof: in as much as it is manifeſt, he was not the fyrſte that put on armour. And for that he tooke weapon after them, which armed themſelues againſt the kyng and quenes commandement: he had therin iuſt occaſion, & ſuche as by nature belõged vnto hym: to wete the defence of his prince to the vtmoſte of his power, the ſubiectes lykewiſe of his maieſtie, and himſelf from violence. In as muche alſo as ſyns that tyme he hathe alwayes ſubmytted hym ſelfe to the laying downe of weapon vnder reaſonable condytions, ſuche as myghte tend to a good and ſure peace for eyther partie, and the liberte of the kyng and quene. Wherby men may eaſily know that theſe be thonly cauſes which haue reiected the ſaid conditions (who nat beyng able to ſuffre the rule of the Quene which gouerned without force or violẽce

keping

keepyng eche manne in quiete, and loo-
kyng carefully for payement of the king
her sonnes debtes, haue armed theym
selues, haue entred the court, haue pas-
sed euen to the kynges chaumber with
their force contrary to his commaunde-
ment to dispose of this realme at they-
pleasure, haue made slaughter of his
maiesties subiects, who lyued vnder the
sufferaunce of his Edictes: And conse-
quently haue put all Fraunce in an vp-
roze, euen than whan it grewe towar-
des greate quietenesse, chiefely for the
matter of religion, wherin eyther par-
tie deemed muche cause of contenta-
tion.

And without taryeng onely vpon this
whyche men see at this present, if they
woulde enter a lyttell further into the
matter, and consyder the humors and
dooynges that haue passe eche manne
frome tyme to tyme, and looke yet fur-
ther afore them, who they be that haue
heretofore raysed and mayntayned the
troubles sprong in this realme: They
shall fynde that euen those, who of late
haue begun to put on armour and fyr-

red

red vp this Ciuile warre, haue almoſte from theyr byrthe vp, conſpired to trouble the commune quiete of this kyngedome, and that reſtfulneſſe wherof they bee thennemies, becauſe it is contrarye to the marke they ſhoote at, and cuttes awaye the meane of theyr ambicion, whoe thynke them ſelues in pryſon, and neuer in good ordre, but whan there is occaſions of changes and enterpryſes. And without any mention making, concerning this mater of a iudgement whiche king Frauncis the.i. that greate and wiſe king made of them, neyther yet of ſundry other particularities of their doynges. Who knoweth not the ſelfe ſame men becauſe they coulde not away with the benefyte of a commune quiete were the cauſe of breache of that honourable and moſte profytable Truce made betwene kyng Henry laſtly departed, the Emperor Charles, and the Spanyſhe kyng: (whereby not onely we feele the ſmarte, but all our poſteritie ſhall feele the ſame. They putting by this meanes al Europe in trouble and confuſion, and

all

all Fraunce in ruine, that they myghte therby come to their endes and intentes well enough vnderstanded: And who when they had ones embraced the handlynge of matters and the money, after the iorney of saint Laurence, whan sundry greefes one after an other had happened by reason of that ouerthrow, began by tymes to make suche vnquietnesse in this realme, as the said kyng Henry departed, who was not able to suffre any more such violent spyghts aboute hym, determined to send them home to theyr houses, had he not ben preuẽted by deth.

After that duryng the reigne of kyng Francis the second of that name, when these straunger gouernors had contrary to all ryght, yea agaynst the lawes and customes of Fraunce, vsurped vnto theym selues the whole gouernemente, was not this poore realme in troubles and in armes: Dyd they nat in the sight of euery man slee the sayd yong kyng vpon his owne prepre subiects (who yet otherwise was both good & vertuous of himself) and haue they not done what in them lay to defile his memory & cronicle

with

with their exceadyng cruelties: Dydde they not cause hym to arme hym selfe and make a campe in the myddes of hys realme agaynste hys owne seruauntes with so horrible a shewe of mysery and heauynesse throughall hys realme, that euery manne yet doth abhorre to talke therof, and bryng it thereby to remembraunce: And to make an ende of thys they? Tragedye: haue not all men seene after the death of the sayde king Fraunces when their violente rule ceased: the Queene and the kynge of Nauarre, by one consente and correspondence to haue ruled together all this estate peasybly and wyth all Justice and clemency, thirtene whole monethes: tyll suche tyme as they? ambition (whyche wyll neuer suffre theym to kepe in, and lyue in reste) hadde styred theim vppe, and pusht them forewardes with they? good agentes and ministers to trouble heauen and earth, as all men may see, and that to the great sorowe of the said prince who doubteth not but all persones of good and sound iudgemẽt, do right well knowe those that haue ben the occasion

of begynnyng, maintaynyng, and continuyng the troublyng of this realme: Wherby men can not without slander, charge them, that haue alwaies by good proofe shewed them selues as well the shunners of suche meanes and inuentions, as also of those honors and ryches which contrary wyse these others haue obteyned, by suchs gaye meanes as is moste euident.

Secondarily, so lyttell ought men to meruayle, yf the sayde prynce in this case woorke surely with those that haue the King and Quene at this day in their possession, that rather menne myghte thynke it a great foly in hym, if he shold otherwyse vse the matter, and shsuld so farre forgette hymselfe, as to putt hym to theyr mercy, remembring the strange maner of dealynge, wherewith he was intreated by them nat long ago, when through theyr taken on authoritie they commaunded all in this realme. In as muche also as it is moste certayne, the marke they shoote at, tendeth to none other ende, than to the whole ruine of the more parte of the nobilitie, and of

all

all other estates what soeuer, that make profession of the reformed Religion, chiefly that, of the prince and al his company. Whiche thyng is moste euidently to bee wytnessed by the very mouthes of the duke of Guyse, and the Constable themselues, and by suche talke as they helde in the full court of the parliament of Parys, vsynge these proper termes, That fyrst of all, they must begyn with Parys, and that afterwardes they wold well ynough rule the rest, and so would deale, that men shold know of what religion eche man was, chiefely suche as had any authoritie, and that the principall meanyng of the kynge was, to departe the company that was at Orleance after that he wold not haue his handes tyed vp. But in as much as it hath lyen in the power of some, through their particular affections, to breake a lawe so solemnely made, as was the Edict of January last past, wherby all this Realme grewe to a quietnesse: And further that whiche of late was resolued on vpon a saterday nat long sens in full councell, whiche was, that the sayd Edict should

bee

bee published without any exception or restraint of the town of Paris, and that precinct: yf this I saye were broken and violated and the restraint for Paris passed in the courte of parliament by their practises and thorough thautoritie they take vpon them: menne may therby easily perceaue how the queene is obeied, What power she is of, and howe theyr wylles, passions and particular affections ar aboue her pleasure, and the determination of the councell: and it is lykewise easy to iudge by all their saiynges and doyngs that as spedely as they may they will cause the whole realme to doe as thei haue begun with Paris and that libertie or baylywick: and so consequently there is no trust nor assurãce to be had to their letters of proclamation, as may very well bee witnessed by the cry, that since that time was made the xx. of thys monthe, in the foure quarters or quarterons of Paris for the calling together of all the gentlemen of this realme to goe fight against and punishe the seditious & new christians. and here it hath no likelyhode of truth to saye that the people of

Paris

Paris coulde neuer haue endured the edict, nor haue submitted thẽselues thereunto. For euerye man sawe three monthes together, first the prince de la roche sur Yon, and afterwardes the marshall Montmerency, withonly x. or xii. harque busiers, so to haue kept in order ỹ whole people there, as there was no words nor question of brawling the one with the other. which thing peasably endured tyll the commyng of the sayd Duke of Guise to Paris. Wheruppon it is good to marke that when towards the ende, the said marshals bande was encreased and made stronger with certayne horsemen and footemen, to lette such mettinges as men sawe were appointed purposelye to stirre vp the people: it was then persuaded by the prouost of the merchants, and by those of the toune, ỹ it was not nedefull to kepe such a force there, which serued to none other purpose, thã to greue the people, whome it was easy without any such numbre, to kepe in order: & yet notwithstanding since the commyng of the sayd Duke of Guise, the sayde people haue soo chaunged theyr humour

and

and it hath bene so hard a matter to kepe them in (as these men at least wold make vs beleue) that of necessitie they muste leuie such nombres of ensignes of foote men, as men haue seene, and that without makyng the Queene priuie therto, yea and agaynste her pleasure also.

Lastly the sayd Prince knoweth it to be the woorke of God, that the sayd Duke of Guise and Constable, haue nat bene able in publike and in so great a company to dissemble their meanyng, and that they haue no more said than they thinke for: a matter surely that muche confirmeth suche talke as is ordinarie among their familiers and household seruants, whiche also hathe been well knowen by an infinite numbre of letters taken vp by the way: that is, that they desyre no more than to dissolue the companye at Orleance, as they may afterwarde doo execution as well on the greate as the small, accordyng to their long deuised meanyng. Wherupon they make ostentimes suche slaughters and cruelties as of late hath ben exercised in Parys as

well

well in the presence of the sayd Constable and vnder his priuate authoritie, as also suche as are dayely committed in sundrye places agaynste those of the reformed Religion, namely that horrible and detestable murther made at Sens, an archebyshoprike appertaynynge to the Cardinall of Guyse, whyche hadde neuer come to passe without this their newe enterprise, and the auowed example that these men haue geuen. Of whyche calamitie with all other desolations that Fraunce is threatned withall, the faulte can not bee imputed to other than theym selues onsly. And concernyng that message, whych the Queene sent vnto the said Prince, to wete: That he shoulde vnarme hymselfe vppon her woorde and affiaunce, that he shoulde come to the courte, where he shoulde be wel receyued, and that further she wold by writynge, make hym all suche assurance as hym selfe woulde: The sayde Prince geueth to vnderstand, ý he hath none other desire than to obey the wyll and pleasure of that good Lady, and to see euery man in quiet: but he right well

vnderstandeth, that those dispatches and all others are at this day at thonly appetite of thabouesaid, and can not perceiue that her maiestie (howe good wil soeuer she haue) can make hym any suretie, so long as she remaineth in their powers, and whyle they shall abyde aboute the king and her. For what meane hath she to resist them, or any enterprise they shal attempt, being enuironned with theyr force and armour which thei themselues haue leuied and assembled, and whiche they haue presumed to bryng into the kynges house and chambre agaynst his pleasure, and expresse inhibition: As litell suretie is it also to saye, the kyng of Nauarre (whom the sayd Prince and al those of his company, doo acknowledge next after the king and quene) shall only haue the force of the Kynges Lieutenant generall, if a man marke theyr enterprise of possessyng hym, and the abusyng of his goodnesse. Withall it is not to be douted, but that the force and people which they haue assembled (in whose hande so euer they shall come) wyll bee at their deuotion, and wyll bee obedient

to

to their willes and intentes. Whereby they shall alwais be able to serue theim selues with them against the will & plesure of the said quene and kyng of Nauarre, yea against their persones whan so euer they will, as they haue right wel alredy made that to be knowē vnto that good Lady, and the aforesaid kyng whā they had power, authoritie and mean to hurt within their rule (wherof if it wold please them but a little to thinke on) thei shuld finde that thonly goodnes of God hath hitherto preserued theim. To bee short, the said prince can not with reson see any other suretie than their withdrawing frō the court. And first of al the ful libertie of ỹ quene, assuring himself ỹ as often as there shall remaine presentely any other force in this realme (chiefly at this time of an vniuersal peace, thā thordinarie gard of the king with ỹ frontier places accustomed, it can not be (consydering their dealings and councels sufficiētly discouered) but the same is to do some forcible & violent execution: for he doubteth nat but as thei haue presumed toassemble their said force, so wil thei as

lytle feare to employ them for the bryn-
gynge to passe of theyr purpose. whiche
thyng maketh those that must kepe them
selues frome suche snares, not ouer ha-
stely to beleue wordes, onlesse some good
praues dyd ensue, whyche they see euy-
dentely to bee all contrarie. For it ap-
peereth, that the abouesayde vtter all
tokens of stomacke and ennemitie that
they canne deuyse, agaynste the sayde
Prince and these of his company, whom
they proclayme thorough oute all the
worlde rebelles, and thennemies of the
kyng. They make prouisyons for their
chiefe houses, they threatten them with
no lesse than lyke, they cause many false
brutes and slanders to be sowen against
the dedes of the sayde Prince, they doo
moreouer make leuies of footemen, as
well within as without the Realme,
they practise with straungers and em-
bassadours, partely vnder the name of
the kyng and quene, and partly without
the knowledge of any theyr maiesties.
They make no difficultie in causyng the
kyng to arme hym selfe agaynst those of
his Subiectes, of whom he was before

theyr gay enterpzise and arrival, obeyd faythfully and wyllyngely, & so shall always be to their lasse. And foz this purpose cause his Maiestie to entre into a charge that euyll commeth to passe, they thynke it good to bestow the money appoynted foz his debts (which yet be such as eche man knoweth) vpon the dziuyng out and destroyeng of the moze parte of his nobilitie and all other estates, which is, as though a manne would cutt of his own armes and legges, and wold make an ende of the ruinyng of this realme, which by their goodly councell, conduict and gouernment, is bzought to the state that all menne see. Finally, thels wise heades of this realme care not to laye out this land to the pzay, deuisyng with them selues how to bzyng in strangers, and to withdzawe the bandes and moste notable souldiours frome the places of moste impoztance; as namely Caleys & Bets, vnto the which it is nat to be douted, but oure ennemies looke narowly inough. And all this to serue their pziuate passion, likyng better to folow the course of their ambition, and comme to

to their appointed end what euer it cost, yea were it with ẏ losse of al ẏ realm, thã to fail any whit of their intẽt. What suretie thã wold a mã loke ẏ prince should find hauing such demõstratiõs & effectes of their most wicked wills & meanings?

As touching the persuasion vsed to the prince wherin it is said, ẏ he ought to forget his particular profit for ẏ cõmon: he thinketh ẏ wer fitter to be persuaded vnto thẽ, who hauing first & most grieuously fauted hole on so welfauordly that they had rather see a great part of the realme perish than (for the cõseruation therof, & to giue suretie to those that haue occasion to seke it) they wold once stirre from the court, where as yet there is no good subiect that had nat rather chuse to absent hym self thens all his lyfe for to redeme suche an inconuenient than to see (thorough his presence) his countrey in danger, & his king anoyed. But to color their obstinate wil in biding at the court they allege their offices & estates, saying ẏ for somuch as they be officers vnto the croune, no mã ought nor can cause them to withdraw thẽselues frõ about ẏ kyn-

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ges person, being specially in his minoritie. May they haue ben so lostie as thei haue not let to say, that the kyng in his vnder age had none authozitie to cause them to depart as though the quene did not supplie the tender age of the kyng: yea and haue thoughte it moze mete by reason of their callyngs to tarie styll at the court to disobey and trouble the state than by their departynge to leaue good example, to geue authozitie vnto the kynges commaundemente, and to allowe the gouernement of the Queene, wherin they lack all good and iust groūd if they wold well wey the present necessitie and occasion. For it is moste certain they neuer had rule geuē thē ouer theyr charges, to employe them at their pleasure, noz to vnquiet the realme, by transgressyng the lawes, armyng themselues not onely without the kynges commandemente, but againste his pleasure, noz to doo suche violences, but to mainteyn the lande in peace and quietenesse, as it was befoze their comyng, and afoze they putte on armoure by theyr owne commyssion, abusynge theyr charges, and

presuming more than at any time durste any of the propre brethern of any of our kynges, who yet thoughe they returned from the battaile, durste neuer enter the court, but they were first disarmed.

Now forasmuch as thorow their arriual and presence at the court together, with their goodly behauior, they se they haue made suche a stirre as thereby they haue set all Fraunce in trouble and fyer, and haue moued a Ciuile warre, and that contrarywyse thonely attonement and quiete of this land dependeth vpon their withdrawyng frome the courte, in as muche as the sayd prince can see no nother meane neyther for the common sure tie, nor for the libertie of the kyng and Queene. And that for hys parte he is resolued neuer to commytte hymselfe to theyr mercie (as no man woulde thinke it reasonable he shoulde) it is moste certaine, that if they bee good and louyng seruauntes and officers to this croune, they will in this case forget all particularitie: In as muche as the sayd prince also, who is not onely an officer and seruant, but hath this honor to be accompted

ted a kynſemanne, and is iſſued of the howſe and bloudde: who by thys occaſyon hathe greatter pryuiledge and righte to tarye aboute his maieſtye. beſydes this alſo that he was not the firſte in armes: And that contrariwiſe thother ſide haue nothing ſatiſfied the requeſt of the eſtates as they be bound before they ſhould be admitted of the kings councel doth notwŏſtanding offer to wdraw himſelf into his houſe and gouernment, and likewiſe to procure that all the other lordes and officers of the croune which bee in his company ſhall do the lyke. Wherunto if the aboueſaid do not condeſcend, The ſayde prince aſſureth himſelfe that there is no man oneleſſe he bee to muche paſſionate, but will thynke that it is not he, but only they that prefer the priuate afore the publike cauſe.

Now if thoſe good officers of the croun ſhall not contente themſelues with thys reaſonable offer, and wil nedes vrge examples, thei muſt than in ſpight of their bearde confeſſe this meane offred to bee reaſonable expedient and acuſtomed, in as much as it is the ſame way which mē

know by a nũber of examples past, ẏ our predecessours kings haue folowed, who whẽ there arose any such controuersy betwene ẏ princes their subiects as ẏ therby they toke armes ẏ one prince against thother of theyr priuat authority: by and by they wer cõmaũded to lay doun weapon on either side, and to wdraw thẽselues into their houses, ẏ afterward they might come & geue accõpt of their doinges, & their cõtrouersies & reasons to bee heard when they shuld be called therunto. At the leaste if against all reason and custome they haue determined to suffre those at the court, which are but officers of the croune withall the force they haue assembled of their owne priuate authoritie: They canne not then deny, but that they shall do an euident wrong vnto the sayd prince (who hath this honour to belong to the kyng, and who did not firste arme himselfe but put them on after the other for none other purpose thã to kepe their maiesties, and hymselfe frome violence) yf he may not haue the like priuiledge to be at the court with those of his band who owe as well their othe to the king as the others, and who he will al-

sure of his honor and life, to be the most faithfull and obedient seruants and subiectes of his maiestye (as they both haue and hereafter will make it right well to be sene) And than beyng there they may receiue the king of Nauars commaūdementes as the kings lieuetenant generall, and assist him as wel as the others, & withal help him to maintain the libertie and authoritie of the king & Queene with all their power, for whose seruyce they are readye to bestow their bodies & goods to the last peny & vttermost breth. But if it happē that ẏ abouesaid wil not suffer the queue to vse this equalitymost reasonable without it may appeare that there is more partialitie towards thone thā ẏ other (although in dede if there be ani affectiō born, ẏ same wer chiefly due to ẏ prince, who hath this honor to be of ẏ bloud) and ẏ for ẏ meting wͤ so presēt a desolatiō the said lady do not wͤ so iust a cause otherwise ētermedle her auctoriti thā hitherto she hath, mē cānot sai ẏ ther hath lacked any good wil in her to do the same, being so wise & vertuous a lady as she is, and one that so coueteth ẏ greatnes of her sunne and the preseruation of

his estate and surety, that she would not spare any person in a mater of such importance and that threateneth so great a ruine: but yet they wil put them selues out of all doubte, that it is the feare she hath of them, who kepe their force continually about her, and will not suffer her to do a thyng so nedefull, whiche thynge they haue sufficient proue inough of that her maiestie is brought into such termes ẏ she leaueth to do sundry things, & passeth a mayny againste her pleasure, as it may right wel appere by the new election of those which haue lately ben called to ẏ priuie councell: whiche men righte well know to haue bene chosen to make vp a number, & to kepe the sayd Lady in subiection vnder pretence of a councel: For men do otherwise sufficiently inough vnderstand the said lady to be very choise in admitting any person to the degree of a counceler. Men doo also know the small respect these persons haue towards her, whiche at this time make their councels to gether aparte, and afterwarde cause her to set forth those thinges themselues haue agreed on: they send out the dispat-

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thes, and after tell her the matter: they force the courte of parliament to passe at their pleasure, whatsoeuer they enterprise, and what so seemeth good to them manifestly shewyng to haue more credit and authoritie therin than euer the king and quene could haue. To be short, who is he that wyll not thinke it at this present more than meete, that the sayd lady shold take vpon her again her authoritie without beyng any longer thus compassed with these men of warr, and that the aboue named doe withdraw themselues with all their force, for the remeuyng of that feare and suspicion that they haue (not without occasion) geuen to so many and withall to remedye those miseries, wherewith this state is threatened: and this the rather because the said prince beyng assured of his companye, who be of the best seruaunts of this croune, and others with hym of all other estates, are determined once for all, to proue their fortune, and to bestowe their liues euen to the lasse droppe of their bloud, rather thanne to see the force of thys realme in the handes of suche as it nothynge belongeth

longeth vnto, who haue abused the same afore time with so great losse of the kinges subiects, and now of late haue made such boucheries and oultrages agaynste those of that religion, which the Prince is of, wythout any regarde hadde to the kinges decrees, that at the leaste he will be wel ware while he liueth how he shal commit hym selfe to their mercy, wherewith he hath afore tyme founde himselfe euill apayd.

And for the remeuing of all such slaunders and complaintes as the aboue saide cause to be made agaynst the said prynce (chiefly this which they greatly sett forwards) that he and those of his company arest and open the pacquets of ỹ king: he hartely wisheth men would vnderstand that he hath alwais born such a reuerẽce and will do all his like, to that which belongeth vnto his maiestye: As he hathe from the beginning expressly forbidden any man to lay handes on the kings, the Quenes or the Kynge of Navarres letters. True it is that the same hathe not bene obserued, (as also it were not reasonable) with the pacquets of the other

perti-

particulers whiche haue both ben ſtaied and opened: In the whych menne haue ſeene a woꝛlde of iniquitye of vntrue repoꝛtes, ſlaunders, falſe Wꝛutes, pꝛactiſes, pourpoſes, and enterpꝛyſes incredible, all contrarye to that goodlye talke of ſuretye, wherewyth they dayelye feede the ſayde Pꝛynce, who no whytte repenteth hym of that he hathe doone, neyther would foꝛ thys reſpecte the thynge ſhoulde haue beene otherwyſe vſed. In as muche as thereby he hath the moꝛe depely knowen their cankred willes.

Touchyng the bꝛeakyng doune of ymages cõmitted at Tours & Blois, the ſaid pꝛince and thoſe of his cõpany haue benmuch offended therwith, in ſuch ſoꝛt as he hath ſẽt woꝛd to the kings officers in the ſayd tounes that he wyll help thẽ and aſſiſte with ſtrong hande to ſee thoſe puniſhed, in the exaꝛnple of others that haue cõmitted that crime. Yis behauioꝛ that he hathe vſed, in this toune of Oꝛleans with the commendation of all eccleſiaſticall perſonnes and the publyke

than-

thankes geuen hym by all ſortes of men here, and other eſtates doo ryghte well witneſſe the good order of his lyfe, with that modeſtie and myldeneſſe whyche bothe he, and all his companye haue, and doo vſe, without any blaſphemie, without any rigour, wrong, or violence offered to any perſone, or tranſgreſſyng the Edict of January laſt paſte. And euen nowe of late, vppon the breakyng of an Image, he hathe cauſed thoſe that ſtande charged therwith, to be putt into the handes of Juſtice to bee punyſhed oute of hande. And as concerning the complaynte made againſte ſuche townes as the inhabitauntes theym ſelues keepe and are ſeaſed and aſſured of, the meanyng is none other thanne the ſeruice of the Kynge and Queene, and to lette thoſe who abuſe the authoritie of theyr maieſtye, and compaſſe theym aboute wyth armes, from the poſſeſſion of them, whereby they mighte force the ſame to ſerue theyr tournes and particular paſſions. For as ſoone as the ſayde ladye ſhalbee reſtored to that former libertye whyche ſhe enioyed twoo mon-

monthes paſte, ſhe ſhall wel vnderſtand the ſayde tounes to remayne in the lyke obedience and ſubiection that afore time they haue doone, and will doo for euer: and that they wylle geue place to none, in all this Realme in theyr fydelitie towardes theyr Maieſties: And leaſt of all, to them, whome they haue knowen a long whyle ſynce to haue practiſed the begynnyng and maintenance of this ciuile warres, vnder the pretence of religion euen with particular purpoſe to furniſhe monye to that intent.

As touchynge the reſte, the ſayde Prince, and all his company, are ſo farre frome layeng vnder foote, and keepyng in ſylence that whyche hathe paſſed in this matter (whyche thyng yet he hathe beene perſuaded to doo), and that he ſhoulde alſo without anye doubte or dreade, ſpeedyly comme to the Courte, that rather they wylle make a memorialt thereof for euer, and paynte it in Tables, wryte it in Letters of golde, make it bee proclaymed and cried loude, thorough all Chriſtendome of the dutie

and fidelytie they, to soo good purpose, haue yealden to theyr kynge, (a Prince layde abroade in thys hys tender age, to all iniurie and violence) to make thereof an examuple and a perpetuall testimony of the maner, wherewith the sayd Prince, the nobilytie of France were so readily, in so good numbre, and so with one accorde assembled together, for the suretie and libertie of theyr Lorde, and for the preseruation of his personne, and estate. Neyther canne the sayde prince thynke, that hereafter there may bee offered vnto hym a more goodlye and worthye to bee thoughte on occasion to doo his maiestie seruice, neyther a better or worthier meane to pourchase vnto him selfe treiue honour and praise. At the leaste he hopethe to obteyne the fauoure of God, and of his prynce; for this saicte when he shall attayne to that age, wherein he shall bee able to iudge, knowe, and vnderstande thys acte; of treiue and faythfull affection, whych his Subiectes haue borne hym at this tyme.

These

THESE thynges consydered, the sayde Prince who hathe doone all duetie to pacifye thys trouble, whyche semeth to tende to none other end than to a manyfeste ruyne and subuersyon of thys state: Who hathe also submytted hymself to all the reasonable conditions that in hym lye, to laye dawn al weapon as well on the one syde as the other, without hauynge regarde to any thyng, other than the libertie of the Kyng and Quene: And the cõmune surette whiche he hath good cause to seke, doth agayne protest, afore the Kyng and Quene, and all the courtes of parliament, with all the estates of this Realme, that of the mischiefs, miseries and desolations that maye hereafter come to passe, the faulte thereof oughte to bee imputed to those that be the authors and thonely cause, who haue determyned rather to trouble all thys state, by taryenge in courte, and in the counsayle (where as yet they neither can nor oughte remayne, neyther be admytted) yf they wouldo folow the requeste of the estates) tyll suche tyme

as they had ſatiſfied them) than by depar
tynge thence to leaue there a common
quiete and reſte.

The ſaide p̄nce further requireth all
the ſayde courtes of parliament, all the
tounes and communaltes of this realme
that they will diligentlye way all the a-
bouesayde, and to doe al the duetye they
owe and that ſhall be poſſible vnto them
to doue for the ſeruice of the kynge, the
ſuretye of his perſonne and ſtate, and to
maynetayne the auctoritye and rule of
the Queene: to ths ende they maye here-
after rendre ſo good a compte, and
ſufficient witneſſe of theyr dooynges in
thys p̄ſent neceſſitie (as the ſaid p̄nce
alſo myndeth to do of hys vnto the king
beynge comme to the age of commaun-
dyng by hym ſelfe) that his maieſty may
haue occaſyon rather to p̄raiſe theym, e-
ſteeme them and thancke them, than to
blame theym for theyr lacke of duety, or
for the to much folowyng their paſſions
for flatering or gratyfieng any particu-
ler perſons, who would at this tyme ra-
ther colour, autoriſe and make ratified

their

they? lautes than looke to the conseruation of hys estate.

Further the sayde p?ince hartely beseecheth all the good and lawfull subiectes of thys crowne to lende him ayde, fauour and assistence in a cause so good and iuste: callyng GOD to wytnesse, that onelye the griefe he hathe to see the kynge and Queene so vnwo?thelye handeled by they? owne p?oper subiectes, and compassed wyth they? fo?ce and armes, otherwise than euer beso?e thys tyme hath bene seene in this realme, and the desire to mayntayne the honour of God, the gouernment of the sayde ladye together with the conseruacion of thys estate, and the mo?e parte of the kynges good subiectes, haue constrained hym to sette hym selfe agaynste they? violence. Whiche thynge at the leaste wayes hytherto hath so p?euayled that as yet they neuer durst execute they? enterp?ises sufficientlye enough discouered, whyche surelye woulde haue b?oughte her sayde maiestye in suche extremitye and thr?aldome as of longe tyme no Queene hath

bene seene, and the moste parte of the sayde subiectes of the kynge in most pitifull estate and greuous oppression. He thanketh almightye GOD greately, that it hathe pleased him of his infinite goodnesse and prouidence to put into his hand the meane to resist them hitherto, whiche he trusteth and assureth him self he wil geue him the grace to bring to a good and happy end for his seruice sake and that of bothe their said maiesties

Lois de Burbon.